REMARKS

Reconsideration of all grounds of rejection in the Office Action based upon the following amendments, and allowance of all of the pending claims are respectfully requested in light of the following remarks.

Claims 1-4 are rejected. Claim 4 has been amended. Claims 1 and 4 are independent claims. Claims 1-4 are pending.

The Abstract of Disclosure has been objected to form failing to adhere to the 150 word limit and for failing to be presented in narrative form. In response, applicants have amended the disclosure to read in the narrative form and to adhere to the word limitation suggested in the MPEP.

Claim 4 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention.

In response, applicants have amended the dependent claim ask suggested by the examiner. Support for this interpretation is pervasive throughout the disclosure. For example, on page 4, lines 15 to 19, the number of nodes N is calculated where the number is even or odd based upon the a given integer number N.

Claims 1-4 which stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by Ellinas et al. (US 5,999,288). In response, applicants respectfully traverse and provide the following argument.

Claim 1 recites a method for assigning a predetermined wavelength between two different nodes in a wavelength division multiplexing ring communication network that has an N number of nodes and at least one pair of optical fibers sequentially connecting

the N number of nodes, the method comprising the steps of, *inter alia*, **adding an N/2**

number of rows in the matrix.

Similarly, claim 4 as currently present, recites a method tracking along each row

toward the left, from the added column, to find a first encountered numeral and

increasing the found numeral by one, and, **if the numeral exceeds a maximum number**

of hops (Lmax = (N-1)/2) after being increased, modifying the numeral to a hop-number

from a column corresponding to the first-encountered numeral to the added column

In contrast, in Ellinas the number of added rows is different from the number of

added rows as recited in claim 1. As described in Ellinas, Col. 14, line 15, the row is

extended {WxN} from {W'xN'}, in which a value W indicates $W=(N^2-1)/8$, and the row

is increased to correspond to the necessary and new wavelength $W'(W'=(N'^2)/8$ or

$W'=[N^2+4]/8)$.

Meanwhile, in the present invention, as described in paragraph [0099] the row of

N/2 is increased. Referring to Paragraph [0090] of the present application, the example

of eight nodes is described, in which it, makes 10 wavelengths by adding 4 rows (=8/2),

so , a value Lmax=4 (referring to Table 10).

In case of the method disclosed in Claim 4, Ellinas, discloses that the number of

an added row is two $\{=(8^2/8)-\{(7^2-1)/8\}$ and a value Lmax becomes Lmax=3. Unlike

the present invention wherein **if the numeral exceeds a maximum number of hops**

(Lmax = (N-1)/2) after being increased, modifying the numeral to a hop-number from a

column corresponding to the first-encountered numeral to the added column.

Moreover, Ellinas does not disclose a ring network with a path for network-cut.

Therefore, Ellinas fails to anticipate the present invention which discloses **adding an N/2**
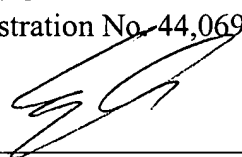
number of rows in the matrix.

The other claims in this application are each dependent from the independent

claim discussed above and are therefore believed patentable for the same reasons. Since

each dependent claim is also deemed to define an additional aspect of the invention,

however, the individual consideration of the patentability of each on its own merits is

respectfully requested.

For all the foregoing reasons, it is respectfully submitted that all the present

claims are patentable in view of the cited reference. A notice of Allowance is

respectfully requested.

Should the Examiner deem that there are any issues, which may be best, resolved

by telephone communication, please contact Applicant's undersigned Attorney at the

number listed below.

Respectfully submitted,

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Date: November 20, 2006   By: Steve Cha
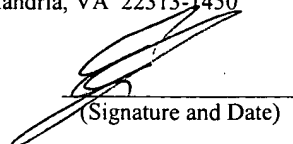   Attorney for Applicant
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